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VOL. XXXII

SEPTEMBER, 1918

No. 8

A MONTHLY MISSIONARY JOURNAL
Published by The Board of Foreign
Missions of the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North
America in the interest of Mission Work

"Politically the situation (in China) is most critical; religiously it is truly wonderful. We have what approximates a mass movement towards Christianity on the part of the literati and upper classes."

SHERWOOD EDDY,

On his return from his recent tour of China.

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OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Missionary Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA IN THE INTEREST OF ALL MISSION WORK, AT 215 BUCKINGHAM PLACE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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Cable Address: Metheny, Philadelphia

Entered as second-class matter January 6, 1916, at the post office at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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OLIVE TREES

A Monthly Journal devoted to Missionary Work in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

VOL. XXXII

SEPTEMBER, 1918

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PROGRESS IN MISSIONS

F. M. FOSTER, PH.D.

The church has not gone "over the top" as she did in the first, second and third centuries. Then, the whole world was heathen. The darkness was absolute. Hatred to the gospel was intense. The fierceness of the opposition is seen in "The Christians to the Lions!" Nevertheless, trench after trench was taken. The mightiest opposition was overcome. Legions led by the fiercest generals of the kingdom of darkness were scattered. Christianity triumphed! In three centuries an all-heathen-empire, the greatest in the world, so came under the power of the gospel that Constantine proclaimed, "Christianity is the religion of the Roman Empire!" This was truly marvelous. Humanly speaking, the impossible had been accomplished.

Bear in mind the church started in that stupendous task with a force scarcely larger than Gideon's band. While not continuous, yet through the 300 years there raged ten persecutions, each probably more bitter than the last. The slaughter of the people of God was appalling. But this could

not stay the onward sweep of the armies of the living God!

What Was the Secret of their Success?

In the three hundred years since the Reformation no such wonderful progress has been made, though our advantages, resources and opportunities greatly exceed those of the first, second and third centuries. We have had the printed Bible, an advantage which can scarcely be measured. Then practically all knowledge of the Saviour, all doctrine, ordinances and laws, all examples inspiring to heroic devotion, had to be orally communicated. Now, at least for more than two centuries, the Bible is an open book, in all so-called Christian lands. In heathen countries schools soon enable the people to read. This is a tremendous asset in our favor. Yet we have not made the progress of the first, second and third centuries.

Again, now and practically for three hundred years, there is liberty to go anywhere and everywhere and preach Christ. If it be objected that this has not been literally true during all three Reformation centuries, it must be admitted that the door of liberty always swung open a little in advance of the readiness of the church

enter "regions beyond." The church has not been straightened through lack of an "open door." Since the days of Luther, Calvin and Knox there has not been a time when hundreds of millions have not stood in full view of the walls of their Jericho down flat. Furthermore, it must be admitted that the grip of heathenism has not been more fanatical in the last three centuries than in the first three. Possibly the view that the mighty power of heathen systems has been a shade less, would be justified. Their systems are no nearer God, but somehow the fibre is a little less strong. The sub-conscience questions the silly antics and the hollow mockery of it all. A few centuries agone, the "hook-swinging," the babe in the Ganges, the burning of the widow, the juggernaut bespattering its wheels with human blood, were applauded. Most of these things have passed, let us hope, forever. The power of heathenism is a shade less. So much the more remarkable is it, therefore, that these three centuries have not witnessed the mighty gospel sweep of the first three. Also, it can almost be said that governments are friendly to the gospel. Not friendly in the sense of sympathetic co-operation, vet even this is almost true, at least in great nations, as China and Japan. Governments are careful not to put obstacles in the way. The valleys are exalted, the mountains brought low, the crooked is made straight, the rough places plain. The whole world is a standing interrogation asking

"What is this Jesus Doctrine?"

As for missionaries they are a superior body chosen of God for a great service. Whether those of the first, second and third centuries were more devoted we are not able to judge. They were torn and tortured and burned and fed to beasts. No such experiences have been in heathen countries since the Reformation. But this does not argue that missionaries of this new era have been less devoted.

Should it be asked, was the church of the first three centuries financially able to do more than the church during the last three, the answer would be strongly, No. If the Apostolic Church is a guide, she was exceeding poor, for the most part in straits... But during the last three centuries the church has had nearly all the wealth of the world. This, again, accentuates the meagre success in mission fields. Following the matter round, we come back and look again at the marvelous spread and power of the gospel over the great Roman Empire in the first, second and third centuries, and ask once more: "What was the secret of their success?"

NEWS ITEM FROM DR. WRIGHT.

Canton, China.—Under date of July 15th Dr. W. M. Wright sends the following: "By this time Synod will have decided the matter of our work here, and whatever that decision may be, we will take it to be what God wills. I have been alone in the work here since April. The number of inpatients averages daily 177. I am profoundly thankful that God sent me here. The hospital is now out of debt and has several thousand dollars to its credit in the bank of its own savings. This hospital holds a strong place in the hearts of the people. Graduates of medical schools here prefer to come as interns for one year rather than take a salary of \$50 a month in the government hospital. While interne they receive no salary. We have seven Chinese physicians here and thirty-two nurses all Christians working at their belief. It is a joy and an inspiraton to work with them."

The scope of Dr. Wright's work may be seen from the fact that he is president of the South China Medical Missionary Association this year. Also a member of the Board of Directors of the Hackett Medical College for Women, and president of the Missionary Summer Resort Association. All this in addition to his work in the Canton Hospital.

LETTER FROM MISS JEAN M. BARR

Under Appointment to Sail for China, September 12, 1918.

Dear Friends of the Church:



In my daily Bible reading almost two years ago these words stood out in a rather startling way, with a special meaning for me—"And an ambassador is sent to the heathen." They came with such force that the connection in which they were used

was forgotten, and a Concordance had to be consulted to locate the passage. I was being asked to go as an ambassador to the heathen, and I did not want to do it. But that is all changed now, and my one desire is to serve Him in the great land of China.

An ambassador is one who goes, not on his own authority, but as the representative of another, a higher authority. He goes with a message from the one who sends him. He goes with the full power of the authority of the one who sends him and all his strength and resources are for his protection.

"And an ambassador is sent to the heathen." The one by whose authority we are commissioned and sent out is the King of kings, the Lord Jesus "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore --. " "We are ambassadors therefore on behalf of Christ." And the message? The greatest, the most glorious any ambassador ever had to deliver. A message that is light in the darkness of error and superstition, warmth and love in the coldness and unloveliness of heathenism. A message of love immeasurably great, peace "which passeth all understanding," freedom—"if the Son shall

make you free, then are ye free indeed." A message of reconciliation, of full and free salvation. What greater privilege? What greater responsibility? It is a glorious mission on which to be sent, but a difficult one, one which carries with it hardship and possible danger. Where is the strength and power which will enable the ambassador to do the work, bear the hardships, brave the dangers? "And lo. I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." From the King Himself comes the full supply of every need. "I can do all things in Him who strengtheneth me," for the grace that He promises is this—"My grace is sufficient for thee," and the supply for every need is "according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." All the power. all the resources of the omnipotent. eternal God are behind His ambassadors. Who could but answer the call of such a King to serve Him?

But an ambassador goes for the nation as well as for its ruler, and the nation as such is behind him. At the recent Convention of the Young People's Societies of the Pittsburgh Presbytery, in an address on "Christ's Call." Rev. J. D. Edgar spoke briefly of His call to prayer, then said, "Before our two young friends even start on their journey to China, we who are here at home can reach that land and work there by way of the throne of grace." Will you as a Church uphold your ambassadors and accomplish much in that great needy field through your prayers?

There are many young people throughout the Church who are planning a High School course, a College course, with regard to their life work. As you plan, will you consider thoughtfully, prayerfully, the possibility of your being wanted as an ambassador for Christ in China or Cyprus or Syria? "Workman get thy tools ready; the Master will find thee work."

Yours in the Master's service.

JEAN M. BARR.

LETTER FROM MISS LILLIAN L. McCRACKEN.

West Sunbury, Pa., Aug. 10, 1918.



I can hardly realize that at last the dream, the desire of my heart for years, has begun to come true, and that in less than a month I am to start the long journey to the "white fields of China," to begin the work I have always wanted to do.

Had my plan been God's, I would have been on the field several years ago, but "God's ways are not our ways," and His are best. I have needed the discipline of disappointed hopes and of

long waiting.

I have always thought that I had the best friends in the world, but in the last few weeks I have found that I did not rate them highly enough. There is nothing possible for them to do that they have not done or would not gladly do for me. Their many kindnesses make me feel humble and unworthy. Yet I have been greatly encouraged by their expressions of approval of my course. Surely I cannot fail when backed by such loyal. true friends, and I have, too, the wonderful promise "My God shall support all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

When receiving so many congratulations and wishes of "God-speed." it was a distinct shock to have a woman whom I know but slightly say to me in a sympathetic voice, "That's too bad." She had just learned that I was "the girl who is going to China." I thought then that her pity was for me but have since feared she may have been thinking of the Chinese or of the other missionaries. What a shame to a Christian community that any one should feel pity for one to whom has come the glorious opportunity that has come to me! I explained that I wanted to go, that I had planned for years to go, and that I was needed, and the look on her face lifted. There is much work for you who read this to do at home. There are still those, ah yes, many of them. in this fair homeland of ours who know little, if anything, of the appalling need for the gospel that exists in China and other heathen lands. It is your duty, more than that, your privilege, to spread the knowledge of this need that many may hear and heed the call to serve. More knowledge, more money, more prayer, and more converts will surely follow. As the days at home grow fewer, and the time to be spent with loved ones shortens, God's promise, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," comes to me with a new and deeper meaning; and, confident that "He is faithful that promised," I face the separation that the miles and the years will bring, full of trust in my Lord and eagerly hopeful for the future.

LILLIAN L. MCCRACKEN,

DEFERRED FROM THE JULY-AUGUST ISSUE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF DR. WRIGHT

Dear Fathers and Brethren:

The work of the past year has been full of pleasure and opportunity. We took up work in Canton Hospital February 15, 1917. The work in this hospital is divided into departments, viz.: Medical, surgical, eye, ear, nose and throat and pathology. I was appointed to the department of pathology, and in June was placed in charge of the surgical department. Free clinics are held for the poor three times a week. There is also a training school for nurses associated with the hospital. Students from the various medical schools attend clinics and operations here. The staff takes part in the teaching in the nurses' training school and in the Woman's Medical College, and in Kung Yee Medical College for Men. Graduates from these schools take post-graduate in the institution. This hospital is the oldest hospital in the

Orient, and being of missionary origin and the one associated with this history and work of such men as Dr. Peter Parker, of whom it is said that he "opened China to the gospel at the point of the lancet" is deeply interested in the spiritual welfare of its patients. There is a live hospital Y. M. C. A. The day's work is begun at 7.30 by a short prayer service, in which all the professional workers take part. At 9.30 all work stops in the hospital, and chapel is held for one-half hour. All of the doctors and internes are professing Christians, as also most of the nurses. The spiritual atmosphere is invigorating and many recruits for the kingdom have been found among the patients. The Board of Directors have assured us that the use of the Psalms in the hospital meetings is not only permitted but desired, and that we have perfect freedom in the matter, and that no requirements will be made that will in any way interfere with the distinctive principles of our faith. There is a great opportunity with the students who attend our clinics daily.

To sum up, my work during the year has been the surgical and pathological departments; two hours a week teaching in the nurses' department; two hours a week teaching in Hackett Medical College for Women; two hours a week teaching in Kung Yee Medical College for Men; charge of internes.

Respectfully submitted, J. W. WRIGHT.

THE EVANGELIZATION OF RUSSIA

One of the greatest opportunities and obligations growing out of the war is that of reaching the great masses of Russia. Her people have been so long kept in subjection and in ignorance, and are venturing so suddenly into the perils of self government, that the need for the restraining and saving power of the Gospel is imperative. It is gratifying to

know that Christian leaders are awake to the importance of the hour, and are moving in the matter. A conference was called to meet in Chicago during the last days of June to devise plans for evangelizing this great country. The introductory words of the call, which state the situation well, are as follows:

"To the Lord's People Everywhere:

The Revolution in Russia has resulted in throwing open to the Gospel the largest country, with its largest population of white people in the world. There are 182,000,000 people in Russia, and yet there are not as many evangelical workers there as in the city of Chicago alone. Many are eagerly waiting for the Gospel. When recently one of the leaders of the "Dom Evangelia" Mission in Petrograd, immediately after returning from Siberia, went with his choir and workers to the large square directly in. front of the Winter Palace, and conducted for the first time in the existence of that city an open air Gospel service, large numbers of men and women assembled. After the message was delivered the people turned to the preacher and said, "Where have you been so long? And why did you not tells us this before?" "I was in Siberia," was the reply.

Never since the beginning of Christianity has such an immense population of our own white people become accessible to missionary enterprise. Our evangelization plan must embrace not only the hundred million native Russians, but also the seven million Jews, the twenty million Poles, the thirty million Ukrainias, millions of Mohammedans (Tartars, Kurds, Kirghiz, etc.), Armenians, Roumanians and Greeks, and besides these the Bulgarians, Servians, Croatians, Montenegrins and other related Slavonić peoples.

The propaganda of Atheism and Materialism is already assuming awful proportions. There is no time to lose. The Greek Orthodox Church is rapidly losing its grip upon the hearts of the people, and before long large masses of simple religiously inclined Russians may be led astray into complete infidelity. Millions of the peoples are looking for some thing different. What is it to be? Atheism or the Gospel? If the latter, then, because of existing conditions in Europe, AMERICA MUST ASSUME CHIEF RESPONSIBILITY for meeting the need, else this greatest Missionary Opportunity of the Centuries may be turned into the most abysmal failure."

This conference was held as called, and was attended by over four thousand delegates, and addressed by some of the most prominent religious leaders in America. It was the unanimous view that one of the great religious opportunities of the day is that which has been opened up in Russia. Steps were taken to interest the various church boards in the work, and also a movement started to send at once what was called a "flying squadron" to do what could be done in an immediate effort. A passage or two from the official report are as follows:

"In view of the great need of Russia it was unanimously decided that while nothing shall be done to interfere in any way with plans or work of existing denominational boards. still it is important that a strong and sympathetic Christian effort be organized as quickly as possible to enter upon this great and long-neglected field, to carry on a work that shall be thoroughly Evangelical, but also strictly interdenominational, so that instead of exhibiting to the new Russia the different denominational features of our work in America we can go to them with a united front, with a united appeal and with a united effort to bring those one hundred and eighty-two million people under the power of the Gospel of Christ.

The Conference was called by more than one hundred Evangelical leaders in different parts of the United States, Canada and England, and according to the recommendation of its Executive Committee a new organization was effected to be known as "The Alliance for the Evangelization of Russia." This alliance has an Executive Committee of twelve members and a General Council, which at the outset will be composed of all those who signed the original manifesto, calling the Conference.

It seemed to the leaders of the Conference necessary, in view of the greatness of the opportunity, that a "flying squadron" of Christian efforshould be organized at once to carry the Gospel by the written and spoken word to the Russian people, and while undoubtedly the demoninational boards will approach this task, yet under present war conditions the work of all will be painfully inadequate, and there is apparent the need of a united effort in which the faith and love of the Christians of Russia may find expression without reference to denominational lines. The effort of the Alliance will be to carry to the people a Christ rather than a creed, a personal Saviour rather than any particular system of faith and order that has developed through the centuries of controversy. The promoters of the Alliance have set for themselves at once to raise a \$3,000,000 religious liberty fund for Russia."

It is a matter for gratitude that the united Christian Church in America is moving so promptly in this matter. We will follow the work with our interest, our prayers and perhaps many may be able to do so with their gifts.

THIRTY-THREE BEAUTIFUL YEARS

An Appreciation.

"Death, an insatiate archer, loves a shining mark," wrote England's gifted poet, long, long ago. How notably true his words are, we who worship in the First Church of Philadelphia can testify, as we recall with sadness our recent bereavement, so

startlingly sudden. In the providence of God, another dear one, greatly beloved, has passed from our midst. Miss M. Louise Carson was, indeed, a "shining mark" for Death's arrow. Uniquely attractive in her winsome personality, endowed with sweet charms which only divine grace could impart, she was eminently fitted to shine in the home, in the church, and in society. She was by personal consecration and conscious acceptance. one of the Masters' light-bearers, and, therefore, adorned with His comeliness and equipment for service. Gracious ministry for others was her delight. Aged disciples, little children the lambs of the flock—any—all who were sick or sad or sorrowing were her beneficiaries. She will be unspeakably missed. She rests from her labors, and her works do follow her.

Her last illness was brief—very brief. A cold, which at first seemed slight, developed rapidly into pneumonia, with complications which baffled the physician's skill. Remedies were altogether unavailing. News had reached the church of the serious nature of her illness; the crisis came on Sabbath—our Communion Sabbath. Shall we ever forget the anxieties of that sacred day? It was our desire to be "in the Spirit on the Lord's day," a special day of the Son of Man, when we should keep the feast of remembrance in His name. but often our thoughts wandered from the solemn sanctuary service to the sick room, three blocks away, where anxious parents and a loving brother hovered near their dear one, hopingpraying, oh, so earnestly that her precious life might be spared. We, too, were praying: a great volume of supplication was ascending to God's throne. Not in the way we desired, were our petitions granted, for our Father had provided some better thing.

The communion service rolled on toward its close. A little past the mid-day hour, as the last table was being filled with communicants, what

was our surprise to see Mr. Carson enter the church, and creep softly up to the table. A triumph of faith, surely! His very presence seemed to say, "With desire, I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer." His Gethsemane was in full view, but who shall say, those few moments of meditation and communion did not fully repay the effort and strain? Loving human voices, clothed with ministerial authority and blessing, uttered words of priceless comfort; and, we doubt not, some angelic messenger came all the way from heaven to strengthen God's servant, in this juniper-tree experience. "This honor is to all His saints." When the table was dismissed, Mr. Carson did not tarry longer, but speedily "returned to bless his household." A few hours later, at the dawn of day on Tuesday morning, Louisa's spirit took its flight, unto God who gave it.

A mere coincidence was it, that the years of Louisa's earthly life numbered precisely those of the Saviour? Let us read betwen the lines to find a sweet note of comfort. A "bound had been appointed," that she could not pass; but hers was, none the less, a finished life. She had "served God in her generation" ere she fell asleep. We need erect no broken column in lovely Laurel Hill Cemetery to mark her grave. That would be an inappropriate symbol. Her sun did not "go down at noon." She is still "shining in the Kingdom of her Father." "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

And so, softening our grief, we say, "Adieu, dear Louise, adieu!" We "sorrow not for you, as those who have no hope." We shall see you again by and by. A redeemed being, spirit, and soul, and body. We leave you in the Saviour's keeping until the day shall break, and the shadows flee away."

S. M.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Covenanter Auxiliary of the American Red Cross was organized by ladies from the Allegheny, Central Allegheny, Eighth Street and East End Congregations on April 26, 1917, to meet every Friday from 9.30 A. M. to 4.30 P. M. Owing to a shortage of materials we were not able to begin sewing until May 18th, and from that time have held 52 meetings, with an average attendance of 25 persons.

There is a business meeting held each day about 15 minutes before lunch at which a report is given of the attendance, number of hospital garments and knitted articles made each week; at this time we have had speakers on Temperance and ladies from the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Red Cross giving us sug-

gestions about the work.

Members of the four congregations have loaned 14 sewing machines, four electric motors, for use on sewing machines and one sock knitting machine. There have been 17 boys enter the service and to these boys the auxiliary has given 12 filled comfort kits, 10 sweaters, 7 scarfs, 10 pairs of wristlets, 34 pairs of socks and 14 Christmas boxes.

The reports from the committee

are as follows:

are as follows:	
WORK COMMITTEE—Mrs. E	2. A.
Barr, Chairman.	
Hospital bed shirts	
Handkerchiefs	, 10
Pajamas suits	. 75
Pillows	
Pillow cases	
Sheets	. 171
Table Napkins (old material)	. 50
Tray covers (old material)	. 20
Wash cloths (old material)	. 60
Towels, bath	240
Towels, face	2070
Towels, operating	212
Underdrawers	45
Undershirts	45
Comfort bags (filled)	24
Comfort bags (empty)	76
Bedspreads	150
Total	45500

KNITTING COMMITTEE—Mrs. E.	G.
McKee, Chairman.	
Bed socks, pairs	2
Socks 3	341
	108
	106
Wristlets 1	117
Wash cloths 1	115
Eye bandages	18
Total articles11	.07
TREASURER'S REPORT—Mrs. R.	A.

Balance \$251.78

The following officers were elected and committees were appointed to serve one year, April, 1918, to April 26, 1919:

Chairman, Miss E. G. McKee.

Vice-Chairman, Mrs. John Allen, Sr.

Secretary, Mrs. M. L. Watson. Treasurer, Mrs. R. A. M. Steele.

Chairman and Assistant Chairman of Work Committee are inspectors of sewing, and Chairman of Knitting Committee is inspector of knitted articles.

WORK COMMITTEE—Mrs. E. A. Barr, Chairman; Mrs. T. H. Boyd, Assistant Chairman; Mrs. W: A. Ward, Mrs. R. C. Reed, Mrs. R. D. Brown.

PURCHASING COMMITTEE—Mrs. M. M. Boyd.

CUTTING COMMITTEE—Mrs. R. W. Wallace, Chairman; Mrs. T. H. Martin, Miss N. McMasters.

FOLDING COMMITTEE—Mrs. M. M. Boyd, Chairman; Mrs. C. A. Dodds, Mrs. J. K. M. Tibby, Mrs. R. A. M. Steele.

KNITTING COMMITTEE—Miss E. G. McKee, Chairman; Mrs. John Allen, Sr., Mrs. Wm. Porter, Mrs. M. L. Watson.

Lunch Committee—Mrs. R. M. J. Dodds, Chairman; Mrs. Alex. Mc-Bride, Mrs. J. A. McGaw.



TEACHERS AND STUDENTS AMERICAN ACADEMY, LARNACA, CYPRUS.

All, except one, seated behind the small boys are teachers. From left to right they are; Mr. Tinghirides (Greek), Licentiate Dimitriades (Greek), stationed at Nicosia, Mr. Behrn, (Turk), Mr. Cirilli (French), Mr., Christofides (Greek), Mr. Des Meules (Swiss), Mr. Weir, Rev. McCarroll, Dr. McCarroll, Mr. Hashim (Syrian), Mr. Davidian (Armenian), Mr. M. Ali (Turk.) Mr. Ezekillian (Armenian), Mr. Daghira (Syrian).

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

AND NOTES OF THE WORKERS

Edited by Mrs. FINDLEY M. WILSON, 2517 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

The Church will be glad to know that the Rev. A. I. Robb, D. D., and Mrs. Robb are expecting to return to China this Fall. Having passed their physical examinations satisfactorily, they are to sail, accompanied by their daughter Jean, on the S. S. Empress of Japan, which is scheduled to leave Vancouver, October 10. The Lord has graciously restored Dr. Robb to health and is thus granting their highest earthly desire—to return to China. May they be spared to many more years of service, and may their "bow abide in strength!"

Word has come of the safe arrival at her home, in Sterling, Kansas, of Miss Mary R. Adams, of our Tak Hing Mission. Miss Adams reached San Francisco, July 18, just five weeks from the day she left Hong Kong. She expresses her pleasure in being home again and her joy in meeting the home folks.

Two new workers for the mission in China sail from San Francisco, September 12th. They are Miss Jean M. Barr, of Ben Avon, a suburb of N. S. Pittsburgh, and Miss Lillian L. McCracken, of West Sunbury, Penna.

Miss Barr is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barr, of the Eighth Street Congregation, Pittsburgh, in which she was brought up. She graduated from the Grades and High School of Ben Avon in 1913, and from the Margaret Morrison School of the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh in 1917. Last year was spent in New York at White's Bible School. Miss Barr has been appointed to China as a Bible woman to work especially among women and children. She takes with her a wealth of consecrated enthusiasm and a charming and winsome personality.

Miss McCracken is of well-known Covenanter extraction and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. McCracken, of West Sunbury, Butler Co., Penna. The father is an elder in the Middletown Congregation, of which Miss McCracken has been a member since early girlhood. She was educated at the North Washington Institute and at Geneva College, graduating from college in 1914. She has been a successful teacher for several years, one of them in the Norfolk Mission College, Virginia. Her work among the colored people at that place is very highly spoken of. Her missionary zeal, earnest Christian character and pre-eminent qualifications for service cause her appointment to be looked upon with approval by all who know her.

These young ladies leave Pittsburgh on September 2d, and expect to sail on the Nanking from San Francisco ten days later. Many earnest prayers for their safe voyage and success in their work follow them.

Larnaca, Cyprus. The following letter, accompanying the photograph of the boys and teachers of the American Academy at Larnaca (see preceding page) was received from Mr. W. Wilbur Weir, who wrote on May 8th. He says, "A few notes from Cyprus may be acceptable. We are now enjoying a vacation for twelve days, it being the time of the Greek Easter. Rev. McCarroll is spending the time preaching in Kyrenia and Nicosia. 1 am endeavoring to completely regain strength lost last autumn as a result of the typhoid fever. The constant strain of school work and minor attacks of malaria tend to keep one down.

"Our track season was a success, considering at least three aims that

we had in mind. First of all, we won the shield—a prize for which we yearly compete with the English school of Nicosia. With a team of ten we went to Nicosia on April 20th and won from them—58-48. At times, while in college, I thought how splendid it would be to carry one's athletic enthusiasm out of college to any place where one might be employed. I find that such enthusiasm is world wide, or, to say the least, can be developed in distant lands. On such occasions as the above mentioned, we all become as students again and seem to compete with the boys in showing a loyal spirit of the school we love. Another aim we had in mind was the participation of every boy in school in the athletic work. Every boy, except those offering reasonable excuses, was compelled to practice during the season at least twice per week. With this arrangement, thirty or forty boys were on the field each evening, and over a hundred boys took regular exercise. On April 12th we held a preliminary track meet in which over eighty boys participated. The following day about forty-five took part in our annual school track meet. From these contestants our school team was chosen.

"Again we aimed at the development of an athletic spirit among the boys, and with it a spirit of loyalty to the school, and consideration for others. Heretofore it has been necessary to compel the boys to take part in athletics and force even the slightest degree of team play. In the future we hope to get above this and appeal to higher motives in the boys.

"About three weeks ago I enjoyed a two days' excursion with the senior class. Such a vacation is a new thing for our school but promises to be popular in the future. One day was spent in Nicosia and the same length of time in Kyrenia. First of all in Nicosia we visited the Greek gymnasium. There are, in attendance, over four hundred Greek boys. The school is called a college, although it has sec-

ondary and primary grades as well. We received a hearty welcome from the masters and directors of the school, and had the privilege of attending one class. Our chief impression was that we are only a small part of the educational force of the Island. and in view of what we stand for, should seek to be the best. Other places of interest that we visited were the Turkish mosque of S. Sophia and the lunatic asylum. At Kyrenia we visited two quite interesting places. Before reaching the town we climbed to an old castle, S. Halarion, which is on a mountain peak 2200 feet above Kyrenia. The place is interesting as a type of fortification earlier than the thirteenth century. Another climb took us to an ancient abby, Bella Paise, described in the Handbook of Cyprus as, 'The most beautiful and important Gothic monument in the Levant.' The excursion was a pleasure and a source of knowledge. Our senior class is composed of eight bright chaps, of whom the school may well be proud. Meetings are held in my room each Sabbath evening. Sometimes only one or two are present who have had special difficulties during the week. At other times the meeting is open to all boarders, and at such times the room is full. Here we discuss as young men and boys any question or difficulty that one wishes to raise, not with a view to its complete settlement, in every case, but having in mind practical benefit that we may receive. The boys are free to talk and we find the meetings helpful.

"I am enclosing a photograph of our school which I hope will find a place in OLIVE TREES. I am convinced that the people at home are not acquainted with our work here. Perhaps it is our fault. If anyone entertains a doubt as to the opportunities for work here, or that money given for such work cannot be well spent, let him study this picture closely."

We are doubly favored, for, in addition to Mr. Weir's letter, we also have

an interesting one from Dr. Calvin McCarroll. To people who pay ten cents for twelve ounces of any old mixture, that half-wheat, half-barley loaf of 2 4-5 pounds for 6½ cents that the Doctor writes about, sounds very good. And that isn't bargain-day price either. But, then, there are the sand flies! The Doctor's letter was written on June 1 and follows:

"Just a few lines to let you know that Cyprus is still on the map, although a good many people are rather hazy about the exact location of it. I recently heard of a ticket agent in London who insisted that Cyprus was the capital of Egypt, until disillusioned by a native of the island. Your representatives out here are 'carrying on' to the best of their abilities. are nearing the close of a strenuous and prosperous school year. Although we have been working short-handed, still we feel that it has been one of the best years we have had; both as regards the number of students and the discipline of the school. And evidences of spiritual results are not altogether lacking. Closing exercises are to be held on June 15, and although we have enjoyed the school work, we will be glad to get away from Larnaca for the summer, for it is now the season of sand flies those little white fellows that one can scarcely see or hear but can feel the burning sensation when they bite. They are chiefly active at night and are so small that they are able to, and do, pass through fine muslin bed curtains which we use to keep mosquitoes out. Then they fill up on blood and can't get out the way they get in, so in the morning we find from six to a dozen inside the bed curtain. But the worst of it is that they cause a peculiar fever called 'Papatacci Fever,' which lasts for three days, causing intense pain about the eyes, and upon which quinine has no effect.

"Our boy, Jim, has just recovered from an attack of this fever, and now we are anxious to return to Nicosia, for there our house is inside the town and the sand flies do not bother us. This is the first case that I know of, of this sickness, among our people, but it is not a new sickness as British troops at Malta, when on the way to the Crimea, suffered severely from it.

"Recently, also, Mr. Weir had an attack of malaria, but has recovered and now takes his daily prophylactic dose of quinine. After the busy year the whole teaching staff will be ready for a rest and change of air and surroundings.

"At present we are adding to the school building a new kitchen, store room, washroom, etc., for the boys.

"My work in Nicosia goes on about the same as formerly. I come up here every Friday morning, either by public motor or our own, arriving about 9 o'clock and find the crowd assembled, having much the appearance of a basket picnic. Inside the church the Turkish women gather and listen to Isabella, our Bible woman, while outside Mr. Dimitriades expounds the gospel to the men of various nationalities and the Greek women. After that we have a busy three or four hours attending to the physical needs of these people. next two days I am kept fairly busy with patients who are willing to pay more than the fee charged on Friday, also with some who require daily treatment. Again, on Monday, we have "clinic day," but not so large a crowd, as Friday is always market day, and the villagers combine business with pleasure, or rather kill two birds with one stone. Then Monday afternoon I go to Larnaca, a distance of twenty-five miles for three days' teaching in the school. My clientele have become accustomed to my absence of three days and wait for my return, unless something happens requiring immediate attention, and then they have their choice of about thirty other doctors in Nicosia. However, they have the true Oriental spirit, and a day or two more or less doesn't matter to them.

"The year has been an unusually

prosperous one for the farmers. Plenty of rain and good crops of wheat and barley. Today the government reduced the price of bread so that a loaf of 24-5 pounds, half wheat and half barley flour, is sold for 6½ cents. We consider ourselves fortunate to be in Cyprus, where we can get nearly anything we want at reasonable prices compared with other places. We ask the continuance of your prayers for our work."

Through the kindness of Mr. D. D. Mearns, of Seattle, Wash., we have extracts from a letter written by his daughter, Miss M. Florence Mearns, of our Syrian Mission, who is now with the Palestine Red Cross Unit. Miss Mearns wrote from Durban, Natal, April 29th, and the letter was received in Seattle on June 29th, two months after it was written.

"I have written only two letters since I left New York. Somehow or other the sea doesn't make me want

to write letters.

"I suppose I shall need to start away back there in March when we sailed from New York. We put out to sea March 14th and reached Cape Town about four weeks later, stopping only twenty-four hours at a little town somewhere in the Atlantic. We had a most delightful voyage, for the sea was most propitious and kind, and we saw no periscopes. We did see some ships which we did not love very much but they were not evidently anxious to see us or to get very close to us. One did seem anxious to make our acquaintance but failed.

"We arrived in Cape Town about 4 P. M. one day and left about five or 6 o'clock the next day. We were quite disappointed, for we had hoped to have several days. It seemed refreshing to us land-lubbers, and also to the old salts, to get our feet on terra firma. The day spent there we shopped a little and then motored through the city and out into the suburbs. We saw Cecil Rhodes' estate from a distance and met some friends we had

known in Beirut, and whom I had met when I first went out to Turkey. Then the party was entertained at lunch in one of the finest hotels by a man whose father is one of the wealthiest mine owners in South Africa. He was assisted by the Consul General (American) and by the British Commandant and also by an old Senator.

"We had a pleasant voyage to Durban. Here we have been royally entertained by the Mayor, by the British and Americans, both business men and missionaries. One day about 35 of us motored out to a large mission station of the American Board among the Zulus. The missionaries seemed very happy to look upon the faces of fellow-Americans. After we had visited the different departments the students met in the chapel and I never heard such singing. Some of the men had marvelous deep bass voices, like the deep round notes of a pipe organ. There was no instrument but the human voice, and there was no need of one. It seemed wonderful, and it is, to see these people only a little removed from savagery. The granddaughter of the first convert was there. Her grandfather had eighty wives, so you see it is quite a long jump to living only with one.

"We have been motored to so many places, and the people have been so lovely and cordial. Our American Consul and his wife entertained at tea. The Mayor and his wife in behalf of the city gave an 'at home' in one of the parks. It certainly does seem strange to call this time of year winter when we left winter behind us

in New York.

"One night we went to a Red Cross concert, where the flags of the countries allied against Germany were unfurled while the national anthem was played. During the playing we stood at attention.

"Our men have been preaching in many of the city pulpits. A Covenanter seems to be the most sought out and sought for of them of all. He has lectured twice on missions in Turkey and refused further engagements.

"At the morning service in most of the churches a roll is called of those at the front and, as each name is called, it is announced what is his present state. The lists are long and make one feel sad. Surely it must soon be over.

"Every day at noon the schools, business houses, etc., close for three minutes to unite in intercession on behalf of the soldiers and sailors and in behalf of a speedy victory. They can teach us careless folks at home many things."

Tak Hing, China. The Tak Hing news budget from Miss Huston is un-

usually interesting:

"Some weeks ago, Chung Taat Ying, one of the students in the Theological Training Class, came to me with considerable more than his usual modesty and bashfulness, and asked if we would still accept pupils after grave worshiping. On being told that we would, he said, 'I want my wife to read book if you will take her in for \$1.20 per month this spring, but I think I can pay more than that in the fall, as I will be preaching and get-

ting more money.'

"I hardly know which produced the greater shock, the offer to pay so much on her expenses, with a voluntary promise of more, or the fact that he had a wife when I knew that he was not even engaged three months before. However, I concealed my surprise while we talked business, then, of course, woman's natural curiosity got the better of me, and I said, 'Mr. Chung, I didn't know you had a wife.' 'I haven't,' he said, 'not yet. But I'm going to get her soon.' speaking about the great expense it was to get married, I asked why he didn't wait till he was through school and had earned some money before he got married. With a deep sigh he replied, 'But it is very hard not to be married.' Of course he had my profound sympathy.

"At any rate he was married about the first of April, the ceremony being performed at the chapel in Lin Taan instead of at his home on account of danger from robbers. His wife is a quiet, dignified little girl about sixteen, and is doing very well in school.

"At his special invitation, his mother-in-law came this week to visit her daughter, and to find out something about the Doctrine. She seems to be a very nice woman, and is enjoying herself immensely, and listens very earnestly to all she hears. She says she has been bitterly persecuted for allowing her daughter to be married to a Christian, and, what is even worse, allowing her to come to the wicked foreigners' school. Now she says she is perfectly satisfied that the Doctrine is good, and that the foreigners are virtuous and righteous people, and she is going home to tell her people so, and to get the consent of her husband and his parents to come back and learn enough to become a Christian."

"Two women who have done about four years' work in the School for Women, are planning to take up work among the women and girls in villages north of Tak Hing. We would hardly expect fourth or fifth year pupils at home to make a very great success of teaching either the Bible or secular subjects, but we are expecting a great deal of these women, as they know a great deal as compared to those to whom they go. They are both widows, one having a daughter in the sixthyear class in the Girls' School, and the other having two dear little girls not yet old enough for school. She is the daughter-in-law of one of the native preachers, and is a fine Christian woman, whose earnestness and genuine goodness will make her a power. She has had enough sorrow and hardship in her own life to make her very sympathetic with others, and can tell of the Christian's Comforter from real experience. She makes good gospel talks, and is able to keep her

audience awake and attentive. Her name is Iu Yat Ts'ing, and will be stationed at Ko Leung, a village some fifteen or twenty miles northeast of

Tak Hing for the present.

"There are a few Christians there but no chapel, and she will make her home with them. It is the home of Tse A Loi, of the Hospital, and Tse Chuk Saam, of the Training School, and they assure her of having at least their wives and as many of their children as are old enough to study.

"The other, Hoh Yat Ts'ing, is to go to Chung Tung, the home of Mr. Shum, the old man who has taught in the Girls' School for a number of years. They are so anxious to learn that they have fitted up a room for a school, and have almost twenty women and girls who want to study regularly. I think there are no Christians there. though Mr. Shum is a nominal Christian, and seems to have created a sentiment in favor of the Doctrine, though he has not vet joined the Church. He is, perhaps, the best educated man in the Tak Hing district, and highly respected, and I believe a Christian at heart, so he is a worthy and needy object for your prayers.

"Chung Tung is only about four

miles from here.

"When we began planning for them to go out, we found that they had almost nothing in the way of clothing, bedding or household goods, as they have not been earning money since coming to school, and one had to pawn her last piece of bedding last spring in order to pay her tuition in school. If I had know she was in such straits, I probably would not have made it necessary, as we have been insisting on even the poorest paying the tuition, \$2.00 a year, but it shows that she had considerable faith that I would help her out later on. said she had not even a washrag fit to take to a strange place, and she has only two poor old mended suits, and will start out in a pair of my old shoes.

"I have some money given me by

friends at home to use at my discretion, and my heart just wanted to give it to them, and tell them to go and buy all they needed and be happy, but my discretion wasn't quite willing for that, so after consulting with others, I finally decided to give it to them as a loan, they to pay it back, to be a permanent fund to be used to help others in the same way, as practically all of the women are as needy as these two. Mrs. Robb also added some discretion money to the fund.

"I have some quilt pieces given by L. M. S. at home, and I gave them each enough to make a top for a comforter, and they are to make them during their spare moments. It will help out their finances considerably, as a few dimes mean a great deal to them.

"A third woman will go out to Wing Ts'uen, Chue Hon Shang's home, but only for the summer, as she has not had so much schooling as the others, though she is, perhaps, the most promising of the three.

"These women are going out to live and work for Christ, in the midst of sin, and ignorance, and superstition; to stand practically alone for a new. strange doctrine among hundreds of heathen; to meet new and fiercer temptations than they ever knew existed; to suffer ridicule, and, perhaps, persecution, for the cause of Christ. They go in much fear and weakness, but trusting that God will perfect His strength in their weakness, and give to them what they lack in wisdom. Try to imagine yourself as one of them, then pray for them as you feel you would need prayer."

"Later. These two women came and said they had gone up street to buy their outfit, but as the merchants had stored all their goods away from the flood they were not willing to get them out to sell. Since they could not buy anything they said they had decided to borrow some things, and get along as best they could for the present, and wanted to give back the money I had loaned to them lest they

spend it for food or things they didn't really need, as it is very hard not to spend money when you have it in your pocket. They are to get the princely sum of \$5.00 Chinese money per month, about \$3.50 gold, with the prospect of a little more later on if they do well."

"Miss Adams is in Canton for a little visit with her brother before she sails for home, and, incidentally, to do some shopping. She is scheduled to sail June 21, on the S. S. China, reaching San Francisco about the 18th of July. I begin to realize how much she has been doing now that the responsibility is all falling upon me."

"We enjoyed a short visit from Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Mitchel, who came up for Communion the last of May. They seem to be enjoying their work at the language school, and I think they have done as much work already as I did in two years, and they are getting a fine foundation for future work."

"Dr. McBurney was invited to give a talk on the American Indians to the Chinese Ladies' Missionary Society of the Alliance Mission at Wu Chow a short time ago. While there she also gave three addresses to the students of the Women's and Girls' Schools, one including the Theological Seminary students, on Sanitation and Personal Hygiene."

"At a recent visit to the country we were talking far into the night with a number who had come to listen to the Doctrine. Chue Lin Yau, the bent grandmother of whom Mrs. Kempf has written, was also there, and did her part of the talking. As she was speaking about death and heaven she suddenly turned to me, and said, 'I want you to promise to come to my funeral when I die. Yes, and you tell "John Robb" that I want him to come, too, and all the others who can. I want you to be sure to

have a meeting over my body to worship God.' Then, turning to a relative she said to him, 'And I am telling you now, I don't want any heathen business over my death, no priest to mutter a lot of foolish words, no musicians with their "boom-boom, tee-tee-tum-tum," no firetrackers, and no hired mourners to wail for me, for I will be much happier than you will, and it would be more appropriate for me to weep for you. All I want is a I salm, some Bible, and a prayer. Now will you remember?'

"A few days later she came in to get someone to go out to have a service for an old lady, one of the Ma Hui Christians who had died. Miss Adams, Chue Hon Shang and several women walked out—about eight miles—through rain and mud, and they felt fully repaid for all the discomfort they had, as the people seemed very receptive to the message Mr. Chue gave them."

* * * *

"A few weeks ago the country was suffering from lack of rain, and the river was so low that several of the steamers were stranded on the sand. But now there is 'water, water everywhere,' and if you are over-fastidious you may add 'but not a drop to drink.' The river has been steadily rising for some time, and on Monday the streets began to fill. Every one laid in a supply of rice, the Chinese schools all dismissed, the markets were crowded with melons, cucumbers, sweet potato vines, roasting ears and other vegetables that were being covered by the flood.

"On Tuesday afternoon we decided to dismiss the Girls' School, as the water was so deep that some of them would not be able to wade through the streets. As it was soon likely to be up to the Women's building, they moved everything upstairs, and came to the girls' building to live a few days. The hospital people also moved up higher. The water came into the women's building a foot or more, and into the hospital a few inches, and

into the front yards of the house where Mr. J. K. Robb lives."

Lo Ting, China. Mrs. E. C. Mitchell forwarded the Lo Ting news items, which came a little too late for the July-August issue, but have held over without getting stale:

"The enrollment in the Girls' School is the largest in its history, having an

attendance up to date of 84."

"In the Women's Department for the month of March 26 calls were made and 27 meetings were held for inquirers, in addition to three regular meetings each week for Christians. Seven villages were visited and 180 books sold."

"New interest has been aroused in the Lo Ting Sabbath School of late, the pupils having been stimulated to a bit of rivalry in bringing in new pupils. The results have been most encouraging and special classes have been organized for these newcomers. Note is made of those who bring their own Testaments."

"On March 31st a special collection was lifted in the Sabbath School for the flood sufferers in North China. Some little girls on hearing of people starving were moved to restrict their diet of rice, which in America would be bread. This they did for three days. The collection amounted to \$28.82 (Chinese money)."

* * * *

"Cards are being printed for an index system by means of which we can keep in touch with anyone who has come in contact with the Mission in any department of the work. The form of the card is as follows:

"Name.

Sex. Address. Occupation.

Attitude towards the Doctrine.

Family relations.

Remarks."

"There has been great rejoicing in the Lo Ting Girls' School these last few weeks over the raising of our big school bell. This was a gift from the Sabbath School of Second New York Congregation.

"We are sometimes discouraged because our girls are not all coming into the church. There are, however, many things that lead us to think they are learning to love the Word of God. Last week a ten-year-old lass put a paper cover on her New Testament. Her old one was worn by three years' hard usage, and on this cover wrote 'The Precious True Bible.' She did this of her own accord, and quite unconscious that she was being observed by anyone."

"Miss Tsang, the devoted Christian teacher of our first grade in our Girls' School, was giving a graphic description of heaven to her new pupils when Laan Ying, a bright little eight-year-old, piped up: 'Sin Shaang (teacher) can't we go to heaven right away?'"

"One of the inefficient teachers in the Government Girls' School in Lo Ting has been dismissed. In her place they have secured a lovely Christian woman from Canton. Mrs. Cheung is a member of the Church of England, and gives every evidence of being a real follower of the Master. She is a regular attendant at all our Sabbath services. In her present position such faithfulness is very commendable and will make a great impression upon the non-Christians with whom she comes in contact.

"The Catholic Church, financed by American money, has opened a chapel very near us. They are offering inducements to some of our members to leave us and go to them. One old man has been offered a job at selling books at a salary of \$12.00 a month. It is reported that a foreign priest will come, but at present the work is in charge of a Chinaman."

"Our new Chapel will be opened May 2. We will have a much larger and more comfortable place for services."

* * * *

"Refreshing rains have come to this district. It has been extremely dry for months, and if rain in large quantities does not come within a few days the rice crop will be a failure. We hope the rain today will be followed by more."

* * * *

"This district has been disturbed a great deal by robbers for some time. In many places the people have been terror-stricken for months, and there is not much sign of improvement yet."

* * * *

"In the civil prison a Bible class was organized the first of January, and the men have shown a marked interest in the study of the Bible. A weekly prayer meeting is held with the women of this jail each week. These women, of course, cannot read, but have memorized a good deal of Scripture, and seven of the eleven women now there take an active part in our prayer service. One feels the Lord does pity and remember them as with choking voices they ask Him to care for their little ones at home whom they cannot see, and who have no one to look after them."

* * * *

"Several weeks ago a woman came into the hospital very sick. She had been sick for several months and had been trying to save up money to come to be healed. Each time she had a little saved her husband took it to gamble with. She steadily grew worse and at last came to the hospital in a very weakened condition. She improved a little but was so far gone that we feared she could not pull through and one night fully expected her to die. She surprised us by rallying remarkably and we are all hoping she will continue to improve. She is a most lovable little woman, and says she is trusting the Heavenly Father

through everything. She says if she is to die she wants to die in the hospital and says she won't go home till she is all better or dead. Most Chinese like to die at home, but Tsat So is happier where she is."

Extracts from a letter (May 29) of Rev. E. C. Mitchell follow. Mr. Mitchell wrote from Canton. He accompanied Mrs. Mitchell there, where she went to receive treatment for rheumatism, which has again attacked her. All unite in the hope that she will recover speedily:

"We had the opening of our new chapel May 2. A large gathering of Christians and their friends were present. We had prepared a program consisting of short addresses by different ones of the Chinese brethren. The exercises were good and all seemed to appreciate the new chapel.

"We have an auditorium that is about 40x60 feet. It is built of mud brick, that is sun-baked brick, with fire brick pillars in the centre of the building to support the roof. walls are plastered outside and in with lime, so that they look very well. We did not plaster the ceiling and do not intend to. The floor is earth beaten down. We want to have a concrete floor some time but do not have the money for it yet. The cost of the whole building, including leveling the ground and putting up the yard wall, was \$400 gold. When we get a little more money we want to build an addition to one end, to be used for Sabbath School rooms. Everyone seems to be well pleased with the new build-

"We had our Communion the first Sabbath after we opened the new chapel. Seven united with the church by profession and were baptized. Three children also were baptized. This was the first time any children have been baptized in Lo Ting.

"We had a large crowd out at church on Communion Sabbath. The crowd was noisy and I had a cold so that we labored under difficulties all day. We felt, however, the Lord was with us.

"The second Sabbath of May I went to Ch'e Tsai and held communion there. We had meetings twice a day Friday, Saturday and Sabbath. All or nearly all our members there who are at home were at church. The country people in our whole district are in terror for fear of robbers. The men keep watch every night. When they came to church at night they came in with their guns over their shoulders and set them up against the wall where they would be convenient. I remember an old history that I used to study in school that had a picture of the Pilgrim fathers going to church with their guns over their shoulders. I never saw the real thing till this spring.

"The morning I left Ch'e Tsai the word came at daylight that robbers were attacking a neighboring village. As I walked along the road home a little later I could hear them fighting at that village. I heard later that between twenty and thirty people were either burned to death in buildings, shot or kidnapped. Things are in a bad state in our district and there doesn't seem to be any relief in sight.

GARMENT-GIVERS.

"And they spread their garments before Him."

Have you not sometimes wished that you had been there to see our dear Lord as He rode into Jerusalem on that long-ago day, while His followers out of their love and loyalty "spread their garments before Him?"

In a better, dearer way you may see Him this year, as "along the King's Highway." He goes forth with our missionaries to enter heathen cities and homes across the sea.

And you may show your love and loyalty to Him by spreading at His dear feet some of your garments (the worth of them). Will you?

One garment—not because you must, but because you want to do it

for this work in the Orient so dear to the heart of our Lord—will you give it?

It might be a hat, small or large, gay or sombre, costing—oh, just what you pay for yours. For His dear sake will you give the worth of that?

Long ago Sir Walter Raleigh spread his cloak (a handsome one, no doubt) before his queen to protect her feet from the mud and soil of the street. What about the coat you will buy this season? Could you send the worth of it to protect our queens, brave missionaries, girls who "for the sake of the Name" fare forth towalk mid the filth and slime of heathenism?

The second coat, the second blouse, the second suit! How their worth would protect these queens—from the wild animals as we wall their compounds—from poisonous insects as we screen their houses—from sunrays as we build their verandas, or from disease as we remove unsanitary conditions.

Is it too much to hope for the worth of some sets of furs (\$50 or \$100)? Why not? The second set would warm your heart as the first could not begin to warm your shoulders!

If not coats or furs, what about the pretty shoes that have been your pride and delight? The second pair "spread before Him" would entitle you to that sweet old compliment, "How beautiful . . . are the feet . . . that publisheth peace!"

Then the gloves—O, the gloves—short, long, silk, kid, washable, wearable, "giveable!" Why not hundreds and hundreds to spread before our King?

Still He rides on, pausing now and then "to sit over against the treasury" and to note the women and girls who share with Him the best garment they can afford. Still He says:

"I gave, I gave my Life for thee, What hast thou given to Me?" W. F. M. S. of the Presby. Church.

Adapted by courtesy of the W. A. B. F. M. S.

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

Edited by Mrs. J. S. Martin and Mrs. M. E. Metheny, College Hill, Beaver Falls, Pa.

On account of delay in receiving the new Mission Study Book it is not possible to have the notes commence before the October number. It will take some time to read and digest the book before the notes can be prepared intelligently. In the meantime the different Presbyterials may be able to come to some arrangement about a uniform time of commencing.

M. E. METHENY.

Some years ago the late Booker Washington made a special trip to Europe to study the conditions of the working people. As the result of this investigation he wrote a book entitled "The Man Furtherest Down." His purpose was to disabuse the people of his own race in America of the idea that they are the most abused people in the world, and to guide them in their efforts for better things. This was making a somewhat unusual use of information as to how others live.

Mission study acquaints us with the conditions of the people within the pale of heathendom and other areas of mission effort, to enlist our sympathy for them and to call forth effort for their uplift. Wherever mission effort is called for, women have suffered most. The burden of heathenism has forced her down to the level of the beasts. She is denied the status of a human being. Crushing physical burdens are placed on her shoulders. The appeal of these burdened women has led to the selection of "Working Women of the Orient" as the book for study by the Woman's Missionary Societies of America during the coming year. The book lives up to the promise of its title. It comes out of the long suffering of the Orient where women still sit in "the region and shadow of death." Its careful study will be very helpful in preparing the Christian women of America for the larger activity that is at hand on behalf of their unfortunate sisters of the East. The author is Margaret Burton. It comes in two bindings. Cloth, 50 cents; paper, 35 cents.

The companion book for junior study is "Jack and Janet in the Philippines." If we do not interest our children in the children of mission lands we need hardly expect to see them devote their lives to mission work when they grow up. The book is by Norma Waterbury Thomas.

These books have been selected by the Woman's Missionay Society of Pittsburgh Presbytery for study during the year.

MRS. E. A. CROOKS, Supt. Mission Study Pittsburgh Presbyterial.

> Durban, Natal South Africa, April 22, 1918.

This is going to be an epistle general, for there are so many interesting things to tell about. I should use carbons, and make copies, but we have to be rather careful of our supply of paper.

This city is the most amazing mix of races and civilization. In the streets one sees tram-cars, rickshaws, motor cycles and cars; out in the country I have seen lots of carts being drawn by eight or nine spans of donkeys. I saw one cart at the side of the road away out in the country, that was, I think, being drawn by oxen, that were outspanned near by. One

sees strange sights out of town. Many of the people go about pretty much as the Almighty made them, with no nonsense of clothes, but their warm brown skins prevent their having the peeled-willow-wand look that we white people have when we strip to the skin. The rickshaw men are amazingly got up. Some have oxhorns fastened on their heads, others feathers, others colored grasses. They are great strapping Zulus. Some of them seem to pipe-clay their feet and calves, whether for use or for decor-

ation I cannot say. I have been out to two of our Protestant Missions, Inanda, and Manzantoda. Only a few of us went to the first, which is a school for girls some twenty-three miles out, but almost the whole party got out to the second place, twenty-seven miles out. It is a school for both boys and girls, and there is a theological school connected with it. You ought to hear the Zulus sing in parts. I heard Theo. Jessup say that she had never heard such basses except in the Russian Church in New York. We took our lunch with us to both places, so as not to impose too much of a burden on our hosts. At Inanda the missionaries brought their lunch out under the trees, and we all ate together out of doors, but at the second place they had notice that we were coming, and supplemented our lunch with many things. We had our meal on a beautiful veranda overlooking a fine rolling country-side, and the Indian Ocean some four miles away as the crow flies.

Yesterday the clergymen of our party occupied pulpits all over the city, having been invited to do so by the military chaplain here. The people of South Africa have been charming to us. I wish some of them might go over to America, where we could reciprocate. They asked us to a Red Cross concert that was being given in the City Hall shortly after we arrived. We marched in military formation, and they cheered us as if we had been old friends. I cannot deny that the

flesh was a little weary in my case after standing at salute through the playing of the Allied National anthems, but they say we did not look half bad, despite the beastly fit that Weltman & Pollak made of the women's uniforms. What does hurt me is to think how untried we are as yet and how little we have done to deserve all the kindnesses that are showed to us. It makes one want to do one's best to meet so many brave fellows who are doing theirs. We are tea-ed and dined and taken out in motors, and some of our party who went up to Johannesburg from Cape Town were given half rates on the railways, and had carriages reserved for them on all the trains, and stops made especially for them. The manager of the Kimberly mines took them through himself.

South Africa has a double problem of the dark-skinned races, the natives, and then the large Indian population. Our people who have been in Johannesburg and talked to the officials say their attitude is one of sincere desire to be fair, and to develop the native peoples. I am more than ever an admirer of Great Britain as a colonizer. It is a wonderful, and, as you know, a wholly unexpected privilege to me to see all the things that I am seeing. It looks to me as if the Lord will have right to expect some pretty decent behavior on my part after all the pleasure that He has been giving I have wanted for years to see the Southern Cross, and I used to lie abed when I was so ill with fever four years ago, reading "The Golden Age of Prince Henry the Navigator," and poring over maps of the African coast, little thinking that I should get off the beaten Mediterranean travelroutes, and see Cape Town, and Natal, and the Carribean, and Napoleon's place of exile.

There is a beautiful bathing beach here, and it is delightful to go down there after dark and sit on the edge of the esplanade and watch the waves rolling in. There are fine botanical gardens here, and good shops. The town-hall is really a very fine building with a great auditorium with a pipe organ. I was at the hair-dresser's the other day and a girl asked if we had as big a town hall in America as they had in Durban. I asked her whereabouts in America, and she replied "in America." She evidently thought America was a city.

I suppose Livingstone has told you about our little stay in Cape Town, our motor drive away out through the country and along the coast, and past the Cecil Rhodes estate. about the luncheon that some of the Americans there gave us, at which military and civil officers were present. I had the great pleasure of meeting my old friend Elona Thom, who is now Mrs. Freyer, while I was there. I forgot to say that one of the married ladies in the mission that we visited was a daughter of old Dr. Calhound, of the Lebanon. She asked me about Mizpah*. I also forgot to tell you what a lot of beautiful American boys and girls we saw out there of from 15 years old down. They were so enthusiastic to see us in our uniforms. remembered my own youth and what the sight of our naval officers meant to me.

It seems almost incredible at this season of the year, but we have had no bad weather at all all the way from New York. Even rounding the Cape, and coming up here, which is a trip with a very bad reputation for roughness, we had smooth weather. The climate at the Cape seemed very bracing, but this is relaxing—beautiful, but too enervating.

Here endeth the first letter. In my next I shall tell you about the beautiful afternoon tea given to the party by Mrs. Butcher; about the reception the Mayor of Durban is giving us this afternoon, and about the dinner tomorrow evening at Sir Selid Hewlett's. Since we have to be delayed this way on our journey it is a thing to be thankful for that the people and

the climate are so charming that time does not hang heavily on our hands.

EVANGELINE METHENY.

This letter was received enclosed in an official envelope from the New York Post Office after a voyage of 77 days, bearing marks of having been at some time water-soaked.

M. E. METHENY.

AMERICAN REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN MISSION

Cable Address: "Covenanter."
Tak Hing, S. China, May 1, 1918.
To the Women's Missionary Society of the Pittsburgh Presbytery Greeting:

I have just finished reading the letter that comes to me from you through your secretary, Mrs. Steele, and, indeed, it is to me a message of encouragement and strengthens my resolve to lay aside every weight and sin that doth so easily beset me, and run with patience the race that is set before me, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of my faith, who, for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of God the Father.

When we come to the foreign field we try to believe we have come because God is our all in all and that we, in coming, have thus made a complete surrender to Him. We hear His command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." We feel that this is a direct bidding from the Master to us and we obey. It is not hard to obey for, ring ing in our ears, are these words, "For lo, the harvest truly is great but the laborers are few," and "Lift us your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already unto the harvest" and again "Lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world," and the many other messages whispered into our ears at the time of parting from friends make our coming seem but a joyous stepping out farther into

*Miss Metheny's eldest sister.

the Lord's vineyard. But while these cheering messages are a priceless treasure to us and without them we could never have had the courage to venture out into this dark land, yet once on the field and still other messages come to us and burn themselves into our hearts; the following of which are some that have a wonderful significance to the foreign missionary. "Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil," "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak," and how often are we led to exclaim with Paul, "For the good that I would I do not but the evil that I would not that I do;" and in the foreign land, more frequently, perhaps, than at home have we occasion to declare, "I find then in numbers a law that, when I would do good, evil is present with me."

Yes, Satan is here with a marvelous array of instruments. He has a wonderful plant in China and I dare say his factories for turning out contrivances to be used in seducing Christians here are doing as big a business as any of his institution in the homeland. You see China's doors are open now to the Gospel and it means a terrible loss to the enemy if he cannot strike an occasional blow that will defeat a part, at least, of Christ's army.

Today I received a letter from the States which mentioned it as a possibility that with revolution in China the foreign missionary might be returned to his native land. There was a hint of duty to the country that gave us birth in the letter and, since I have always been an ardent admirer of Uncle Sam, the insinuation played its part well and there is nothing so successful as a suggestion of home and loved ones to lure new workers from the field, so here I sat actually wondering if my country didn't need me when your letter came. is God never suffers us to be tempted above that we are able but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, so your letter was the weapon used to defeat the tempter today.

It takes an action like yours which shows hope, confidence, and increasing interest in the things that are His to lead one to yield himself anew to the Master to do His bidding, and with these words of assurance, God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty," to convince me that I may be used by Him here, I am encouraged to say once more with the Psalmist, "I shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord," for "l can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and with your prayer that I may be a "vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the Master's use and prepared unto every good work" I resume my study with increased confidence and renewed faith in Him to strengthen as I am reminded once more that it is not my work, nor the Church's, nor yours but His work being done through all of What a glorious privilege to be "WORKERS TOGETHER WITH HIM!"

And now, my friends, I appreciate the interest which you have shown in the work and in me as His representative and I shall be pleased to write to any congregation or to any of its departments whenever you feel that a letter would be especially helpful to you or to the work here. It is a small thing to do in return for the interest you have shown and the help you are giving but the Heavenly Father is able to reward you abundantly and as I go out to serve Him as I minister to these people here it is good to know that I am not alone in this ministry, but that you are all working with me with Jesus in our midst for the advancement of His kingdom. I am not an interesting letter writer, a fact that I have often deplored, but I want this work to be truly ours for the Master, and in order to be this you must be with me here and I with you in the

Pittsburgh Presbytery and Christ with us—Workers Together With Him. Pray with me for this.

Yours in His work, NELLE A. BROWNLEE.

N. B.—Received too late to be read at Presbyterial, so we give it to our readers.—*Editor*.

During the recent meeting of Synod, it was discovered that women from the various parts of the Church were present and an informal meeting of the women was called for. The women met in the basement of Synod church. Mrs. J. S. Martin was elected chairman of the meeting.

The following subjects were dis-

cussed:

1st. The suggestion from Colorado Presbyterial to the Pittsburgh Presbyterial for the women of the church to meet together during 1919 meeting of Synod for conference for our greater efficiency in our missionary work.

2d. The plan from Kansas Presbyterial for uniform subjects for the devotional period in regular meetings

of auxiliary societies.

3d. A movement to get in line all the auxiliary societies for the Mission

Study in OLIVE TREEs.

After an informal discussion, a few of the women were asked to write a statement of suggestions given. A second meeting was called and the following conclusions were endorsed by those present:

1st. The desire of the women present seemed to be to co-operate with the Colorado Presbyterial in their plan for a conference in 1919 and look to the Colorado Presbyterial to take

the initiative.

2d. Similar co-operation would be given to Kansas Presbyterial in the matter of securing uniform subjects for devotional exercises in the regular meetings of auxiliary societies. 3d. Hearty co-operation would be given OLIVE TREES to secure a more general use of the Mission Study as given in their columns.

We will have more to say in our

next issue.

MRS. J. S. MARTIN, Chairman.

A DAY OF BIG THINGS.

When we read of the billions of dollars that our Government is spending in this war the amounts do not impress us because they pass our powers of comprehension. We grasp the meaning of it all more when we read of some of the smaller items in the big bill of expense.

Just read this Y. M. C. A. cable order, a single order for goods for our boys' canteens "over there." Mark you these quantities are in tons!

600 tons of cigarettes, which means 216 millions of cigarettes!

125 tons of cigars, which means 6 million 450 thousand cigars!

312 tons of smoking tobacco, 624 thousand pounds!

4 tons of shaving sticks!

60 tons of chewing gum, which means 2 million 250 thousand packages; 5 pieces in a package! 11 million 250 thousand pieces of gum!

635 tons of hard candy! 10 tons of tooth paste!

2850 tons of sugar, because the Y. M. C. A. is making its own eating chocolate in Paris.

250 tons of biscuits.

225 tons of cocoa.

500 tons of condensed milk. 375 tons of canned fruit.

And this is only one order! Hard to take in, isn't it?

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every year find you a better man.—*Ben-jamin Franklin*.

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Latakia, Syria. REV. JAS. S. STEWART, D. D	REV. JULIUS A. KEMPF) on furlough
MRS. J. S. STEWART	REV. WILLIAM M. ROBB
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MISS MAGGIE B. EDGAR	MISS ROSE A. HUSTON
MISS M. FLORENCE MEARNS, With Red Cross in Palestine	MISS ANNIE J. ROBINSON, \ without sal'ry
Mersine, Asia Minor.	Miss Nellie A. Brownlee,
MISS EVADNA M. STERRETTon furlough REV. ROBT. E. WILLSON,)	Canton Medical Missionary Union, Canton, South China.
MRS. ROBT. E. WILLSON & On lur'gh	JAMES M. WRIGHT, M. D
REV. ANDREW J. McFarland MRS. ANDREW J. McFarland	MRS. JAMES M. WRIGHT
JOHN PEOPLES, M. D	Union Language School,
MRS. JOHN PEOPLES on furlough MISS F. ELMA FRENCH, on furlough.	Canton, South China.
Larnaca, Cyprus.	REV. R. C. ADAMS
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Nicosia, Cyprus.	MISS INEZ M. SMITH, R. N
CALVIN McCarroll, M. D	Lo Ting, via Canton, South China.
Tak Hing Chau, West River,	REV. ERNEST C. MITCHELL
South China.	MRS. ERNEST C. MITCHELL
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MISS IRENE MCMURTREY MISS MAY ALLEN	REV. G. A. EDGAR, D. D., Superintendent. MISS LOLA WEIR, High School.
MISS MARY MCKNIGHT, Teacher. MR. CLAY WILLIAMS	MISS M. JEAN SHUMAN, High School.
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